

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TOKYO 10635 150905Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /056 W  
-----064806 150957Z /23

R 150810Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9386  
INFO COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 10635

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, JA  
SUBJECT: CONSERVATIVES GAIN SHARPLY IN TOKYO ASSEMBLY

REF: TOKYO 10425

SUMMARY. AGAINST BACKDROP OF LACK OF CLEAR TRENDS IN VOTING PATTERNS IN UPPER HOUSE ELECTION, TOKYO MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY ELECTION HELD CONCURRENTLY APPEARED TO OFFER SOMEWHAT BETTER EVIDENCE OF CHECK IN DECLINE OF CONSERVATIVE FORTUNES AND MOVE TOWARDS CENTER. TO BE SURE, TOKYO CANNOT SPEAK FOR ALL OF JAPAN, BUT IT IS OF INTEREST THAT LDP GAINED A BIT; SOCIALISTS (JSP) AND COMMUNISTS (JCP) LOST 5 PERCENT AND 6 PERCENT OF VOTE RESPECTIVELY; AND NEW LIBERAL CLUB (NLC) TOOK 10 PERCENT OF VOTE ITS FIRST TIME OUT. END SUMMARY.

1. IN ABSENCE OF CLEAR-CUT TRENDS IN RECENTLY CONCLUDED UPPER HOUSE ELECTION, SWING TO CONSERVATIVES IN CONCURRENT ELECTION FOR 126-MAN TOKYO MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY ATTRACTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION. FORMER RULING COALITION OF CGP, JSP AND JCP LOST SIXTEEN OF 70 SEATS WON IN 1973, PLUS NEW SEAT CREATED IN INTERIM,  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TOKYO 10635 150905Z

TO PREVIOUS OPPOSITION GROUPING OF LDP, NLC, DSP AND INDEPENDENTS, WHICH NOW HOLDS 72 SEATS. HARDEST HIT WAS JCP WHICH LOST 13 OF ITS 24 SEATS. JSP WAS DOWN 2 AND CGP DOWN 1. BIGGEST GAINER WAS YOHEI KONO'S NLC, WHICH WON 10 SEATS IN ITS FIRST TIME OUT. LDP PICKED UP 5 SEATS AND DSP AND INDEPENDENT 1 EACH. SIGNIFICANTLY, NLC WIN GIVES THEM CASTING VOTE IN NEW ASSEMBLY.

2. IN POPULAR VOTE, LDP CONTINUED ITS GRADUAL INCREASE, UP 2 PERCENT FROM PREVIOUS ELECTION. JSP CONTINUED ITS SHARP DESCENT, LOSING ABOUT 5 PERCENT AS IT ALSO DID FOUR YEARS EARLIER. CGP DROPPED 3 PERCENT FROM ITS BASE IN PREVIOUS TWO ELECTIONS. DSP, SMALLER PARTIES AND INDEPENDENTS REMAINED ROUGHLY SAME. NLC TOOK 10 PERCENT OF VOTE, BUT WHAT ATTRACTED MOST NOTICE WAS JCP REVERSE. PARTY SPURTED 6 PERCENT LAST TIME, ONLY TO LOSE SAME PERCENTAGE THIS TIME. RESULTS SUGGEST THAT SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF COMMUNIST VOTE MAY HAVE BEEN PROTEST VOTE WITH THIN OR NON-EXISTENT IDEOLOGICAL BASE, AND THAT THIS RELATIVELY UNCOMMITTED BLOC FOUND A HOME WITH NLC.

3. AS USUAL, LOCAL FACTORS WERE ALSO AT WORK. FACING NLC CHALLENGERS FOR FIRST TIME, LDP WAS WORKING FLAT OUT NOT ONLY FOR ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES, BUT TO ASSURE UPPER HOUSE LOCAL CONSTITUENCY VICTORY. BUSINESS COMMUNITY WAS UNUSUALLY INTERESTED IN ELECTION, SINCE LEFTIST TOKYO GOVERNOR MINOBE HAS SCHEDULED NEW TAXES FOR NEXT YEAR AIMED AT BIG BUSINESS AS WAY OF REDUCING HIS SUBSTANTIAL BUDGET DEFICIT. FINALLY, MINOBE'S PREVIOUS SUBSTANTIAL POPULARITY IS DECLINING STEADILY AS BUDGET PINCH PREVENTS START OF NEW WELFARE PROGRAMS.

4. ASSEMBLY OUTCOME HAS GREATLY ENCOURAGED LDP AND WAS PARTICULAR BRIGHT SPOT FOR NLC IN ITS INITIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TOKYO 10635 150905Z

MUNICIPAL ELECTION APPEARANCE. IT WAS OCCASION FOR REAL WORRY ON PART OF JSP, COMPOUNDING PARTY'S UPPER HOUSE ELECTION GLOOM. RESULTS ALSO CALL INTO QUESTION JCP ABILITY TO MOVE BEYOND ITS NORMAL ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT BASE IN THIS CITY, WHICH INCLUDES ONE-TENTH OF NATION'S POPULATION. ALL IN ALL, OUTCOME PROVIDED COMFORT FOR CONSERVATIVES IN FUN CITY EAST, WHERE THEY HAD NOT BEEN HAVING ALL THAT MUCH FUN OF LATE.  
MANSFIELD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, UPPER HOUSE, POLITICAL PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TOKYO10635  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770252-0459  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770751/aaaabrnw.tel  
**Line Count:** 103  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 4b30c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TOKYO 10425  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1843112  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONSERVATIVES GAIN SHARPLY IN TOKYO ASSEMBLY  
**TAGS:** PINT, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4b30c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009